

## *Berwick, Maine 6<sup>th</sup> grader donates to NH Veterans Home*

TILTON, NH – If the only thing you associate with Girl Scouts is cookies, think again. Rebecca Cosgrove is a twelve-year old Girl Scout from Troop #1910 in Berwick, Maine, and she just raised \$700.00 for the New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH).

Becca needed to complete a project to earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award, the highest honor a Junior Girl Scout can achieve. The requirements include learning the leadership and planning skills necessary to follow through on a project that makes a positive impact on one's community. Working towards this award demonstrates the Girl Scout's commitment to helping others, improving her community and the world, and becoming the best she can be.

Becca's mom, Debbie, is a member of the American Legion (AL) Auxiliary (Unit 69 in Somersworth, NH) and Becca belongs to the AL Junior Auxiliary. Becca and members of her Girl Scout troop had been sending holiday cards to veterans and the next logical step was her decision to raise funds for the Veterans Home entertainment fund because, as she told NHVH residents, "I appreciate everything you have done for our country and who know what the world would be like without you!"

A sixth grade student at Eric L. Knowlton School in Berwick, Maine, Becca sold flower pens to raise funds for recreational activities and entertainment at the Veterans Home. Her friend and fellow Girl Scout, Adrienne Lord, helped and Becca's Dad, Ken Cosgrove, matched the funds she raised with a contribution from his business, K. C. Construction.

Besides her Mom, Becca was accompanied to NHVH by Roland Patnode, AL Alternate National Committeeman and American Legion Post 7 (Rochester, NH) Commander, as well as American

Legion Auxiliary Unit 69 (Somersworth, NH) members Mary Brown and Unit President Marie Messier. Becca met NHVH Commandant Barry Conway and enjoyed talking with several veterans at the Home. She said, "I am donating money to the Veterans Home because that is the least I could give for all you have done for America. You fought for this country and helped it become such a nice place to live, and a place where we have more freedom than some. America would not be the same if it was not for you – so thank you for all you have done!"

The New Hampshire Veterans Home was established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier's Home for Civil War Veterans. One of just four New Hampshire nursing homes to win the 2007 Quality of Life Award from the NH Department of Health & Human Services, the modern facility is home to 200 men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State's elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans.



*Rebecca Cosgrove (standing, right) with her mom, Debbie, and NHVH residents Harold Palmer (seated, left) and John Taffner, at the New Hampshire Veterans Home.*